MARVEL LEGACY
THANOS WINS
14
THANOS
CATES
SHAW
FABELA

A total obsession with power drives him…to control the forces of the universe.
He is the Mad Titan. He is…

THANOS

Thanos stood, conqueror of Chitauri Prime… just another world to rule.

Then the sky opened. And Ghost Rider emerged.

Armed with chains forged from the bones of Cyttorak and with Time Stone in skeletal hand, Ghost Rider dragged Thanos across the cosmos to the end of time… where an older Thanos himself sat—reigning supreme over the blighted universe.

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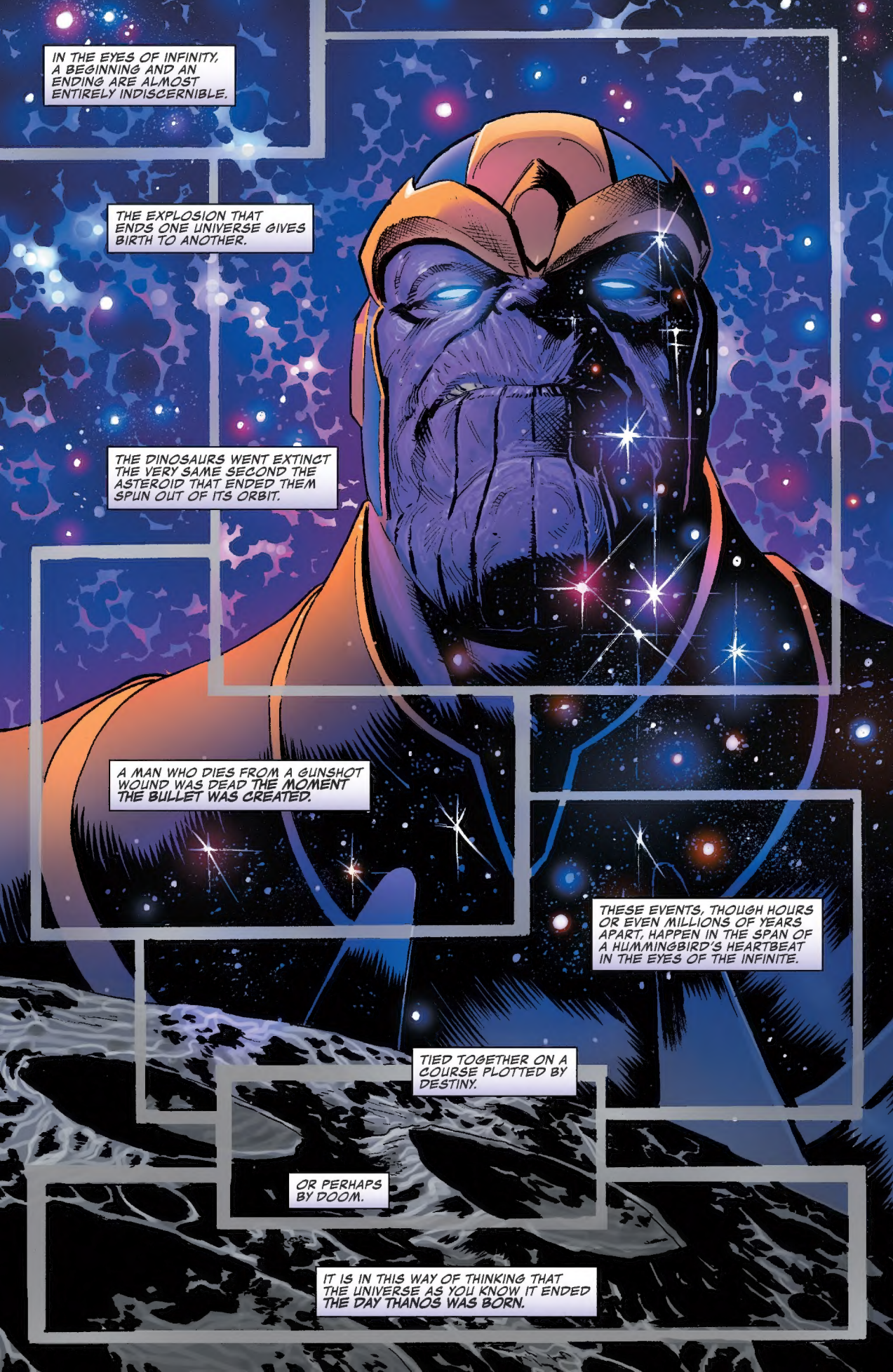

IN THE EYES OF INFINITY, A BEGINNING AND AN ENDING ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY INDISCERNIBLE.
THE EXPLOSION THAT ENDS ONE UNIVERSE GIVES BIRTH TO ANOTHER.
THE DINOSAURS WENT EXTINCT THE VERY SAME SECOND THE ASTEROID THAT ENDED THEM SPUN OUT OF ITS ORBIT.
A MAN WHO DIES FROM A GUNSHOT WOUND WAS DEAD THE MOMENT THE BULLET WAS CREATED.
THESE EVENTS, THOUGH HOURS OR EVEN MILLIONS OF YEARS APART, HAPPEN IN THE SPAN OF A HUMMINGBIRD'S HEARTBEAT IN THE EYES OF THE INFINITE.
TIED TOGETHER ON A COURSE PLOTTED BY DESTINY.
OR PERHAPS BY DOOM.
IT IS IN THIS WAY OF THINKING THAT THE UNIVERSE AS YOU KNOW IT ENDED THE DAY THANOS WAS BORN.

THE END OF ALL THINGS OCCURRED ON A WEDNESDAY SOME FORGOTTEN CENTURIES AGO ON A SMALL MOON OF SATURN CALLED TITAN.
AGGGHHH!
THANOS WAS BORN TO A RACE OF ETERNALS. BUT FOR SOME UNTOLD REASON, HE ARRIVED...DIFFERENT.
THEY CALLED HIM A MUTANT. A DEVIANT.
THEY SAY HIS MOTHER, SUI-SAN WAS HER NAME, WENT INSANE THE MOMENT SHE LAID HER EYES ON HIM...BUT THIS IS NOT ENTIRELY TRUE...
SHE LOST HER MIND WHEN SHE FIRST SPOKE HIS NAME.
...THANOS...
THANOS WAS NOT THE NAME SHE HAD PLANNED ON GIVING THE CHILD. YET WHEN SHE LOOKED INTO HIS PITCH-BLACK EYES...SHE SPOKE IT AT ONCE.
SHE HAD NEVER HEARD THE NAME BEFORE.
AND IF YOU WERE TO ASK HER WHERE IT CAME FROM, SHE WOULD TELL YOU THAT A COLD WIND WHISPERED IT INTO HER EAR.
SHE WOULD ALSO TELL YOU THAT GOING MAD IS A PERFECTLY REASONABLE REACTION TO STARING INTO THE EYES OF A UNIVERSAL CONSTANT.
YOU WOULD GO MAD TOO IF YOU GAVE BIRTH TO A GOD.
ANYWAY, THANOS KILLED HER WHEN HE WAS TWELVE.

FROM THERE, THINGS RATHER... ESCALATED.

AS HE GREW, THANOS BEGAN TO ALTER AND EXPERIMENT ON HIS DEVIANT BIOLOGY. INCREASING HIS STRENGTH, HIS INTELLECT... AND HIS CRUELTY.

AND THEN...WELL, I AM SURE THERE IS VERY LITTLE NEED TO REMIND YOU OF THANOS' VARIOUS QUESTS FOR UNIVERSAL DOMINATION.

THE INFINITY CRUSADES. THE ANNIHILATION WARS.

THE PROPHECIES AND CONQUESTS.

ALLIANCES, BETRAYALS, DEFEATS...

AND DEATH.

ALWAYS. ALWAYS, THERE WAS DEATH.

THE FUTURE.

BUT DEATH NEVER CAME FOR THANOS.

SO AS THE EARTH'S HEROES AND CHAMPIONS WILTED, OLD AND WEAK, AROUND HIM...

...THANOS ONLY GREW STRONGER.

HE BECAME, FINALLY, WHAT HE WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE...

YOU SEE, FOR EONS, THANOS HAS BEEN CALLED "MAD."

LABELED AN ABERRATION, A MUTANT, A DEVIANT. EVIL.

BUT PERHAPS THE TRUTH IS THAT THANOS IS NO MORE ABERRANT THAN THE ASTEROID THAT KILLED THE DINOSAURS.

HE IS NO MORE EVIL THAN A CANCER CELL.

AND HE IS NO MADDER THAN HIS MOTHER BEFORE HIM.

THE PHOENIX BURNS.

GALACTUS DEVOURS.

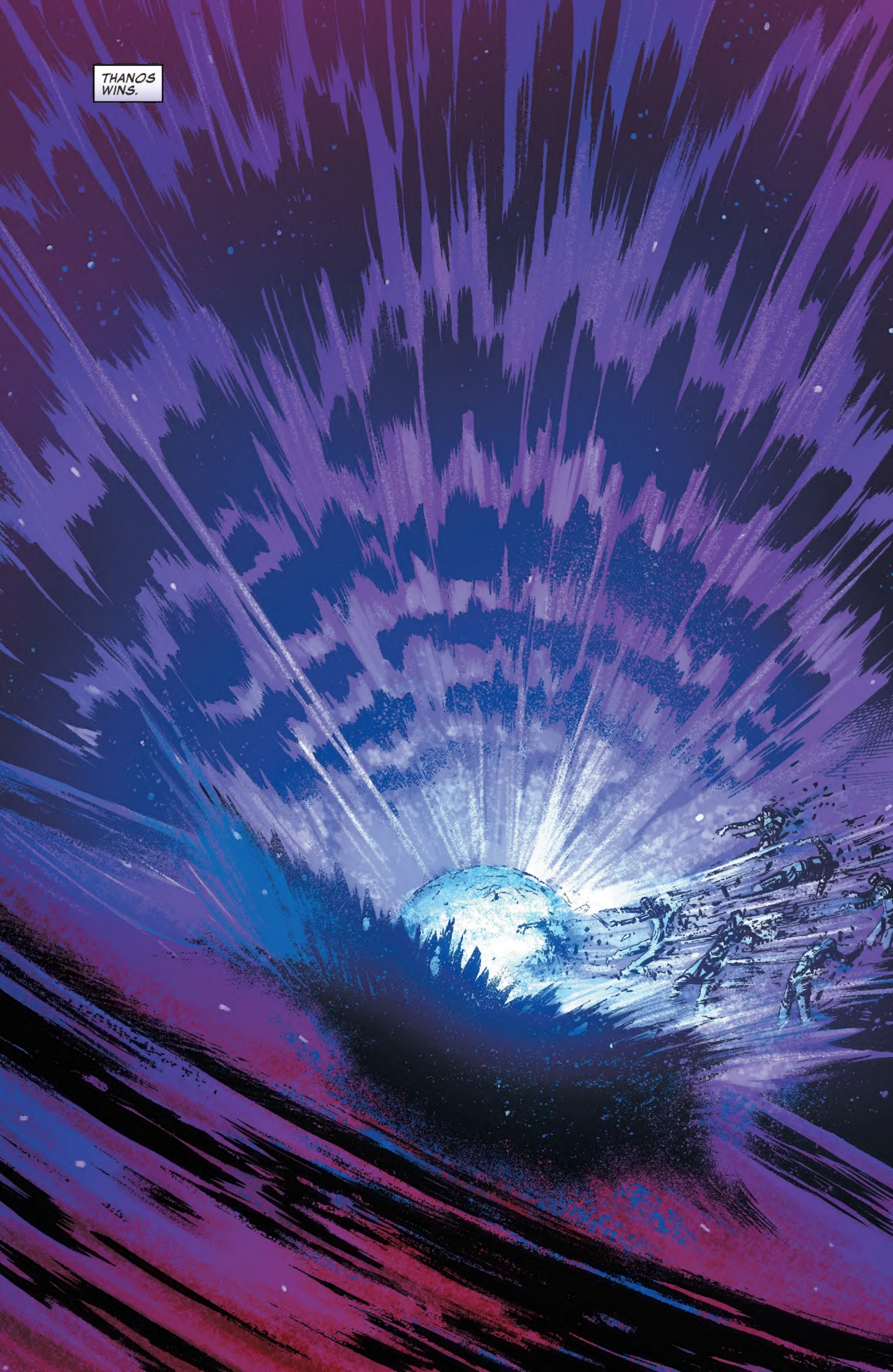
THE WATCHERS WITNESS.

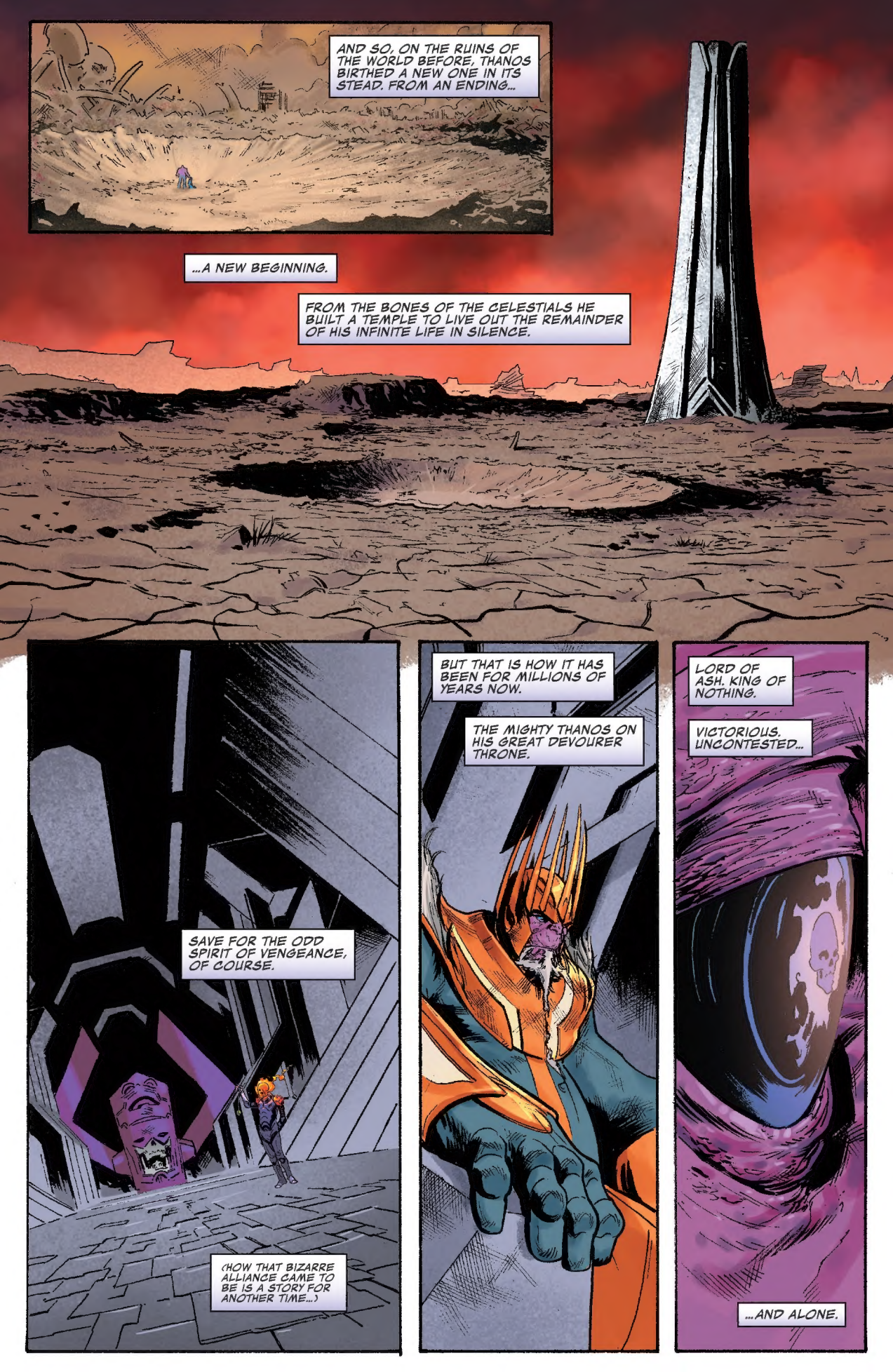
THE CELESTIALS JUDGE.

THANOS LIVES.

THANOS DENIES.

SNK


THANOS WINS.


AND SO, ON THE RUINS OF THE WORLD BEFORE, THANOS BIRTHED A NEW ONE IN ITS STEAD. FROM AN ENDING...
...A NEW BEGINNING.
FROM THE BONES OF THE CELESTIALS HE BUILT A TEMPLE TO LIVE OUT THE REMAINDER OF HIS INFINITE LIFE IN SILENCE.
SAVE FOR THE ODD SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE, OF COURSE.
(HOW THAT BIZARRE ALLIANCE CAME TO BE IS A STORY FOR ANOTHER TIME...)
BUT THAT IS HOW IT HAS BEEN FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS NOW.
THE MIGHTY THANOS ON HIS GREAT DEVOURER THRONE.
LORD OF ASH. KING OF NOTHING.
VICTORIOUS. UNCONTESTED...
...AND ALONE.

AND THEN, SUDDENLY...

BOOM

...THERE WAS THANOS.
I DO NOT CARE WHO YOU THINK YOU ARE, PRETENDER... BUT KNOW THIS...
THANOS WILL BE PUT IN CHAINS, DRAGGED TO HIS KNEES AND DISRESPECTED BY NO ONE.
I DID NOT BRING YOU HERE TO FIGHT ME, BOY!
THEN YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE BROUGHT ME.
AND I WILL NOT BE CALLED BOY!
WHOA, BIG FELLA!

YOU...
ALL RIGHT, LOOK, FRIEND, ALL CARDS ON THE TABLE HERE. YA CAN'T KILL ME.
I'M ABOUT AS DEAD AS IT GETS, SO LET'S JUST CALM DOWN AND BE RATIONAL BECAUSE ALL OF THIS TIME-TRAVEL @#$% IS ALREADY CONFUSING AS @#$% AND THIS AIN'T--
INTERESTING.
GAH!
I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO TEST THIS THEORY OF YOURS ABOUT DEATH.
THOUGH OUR YOUNGER THANOS HERE HAS NOT YET WITNESSED A FRACTION OF THE HORRORS AND GLORY THAT HIS OLDER SELF HAS, HE IS STILL THANOS.
NO! PLEASE!
...*"PLEASE"*?
AND AS SUCH HE HAS ALREADY COMMITTED SUCH MAD AND HORRIFIC ACTS THAT YOU WOULDN'T THINK THERE WAS A SINGLE SIGHT LEFT IN EXISTENCE THAT WOULD SHOCK HIM...

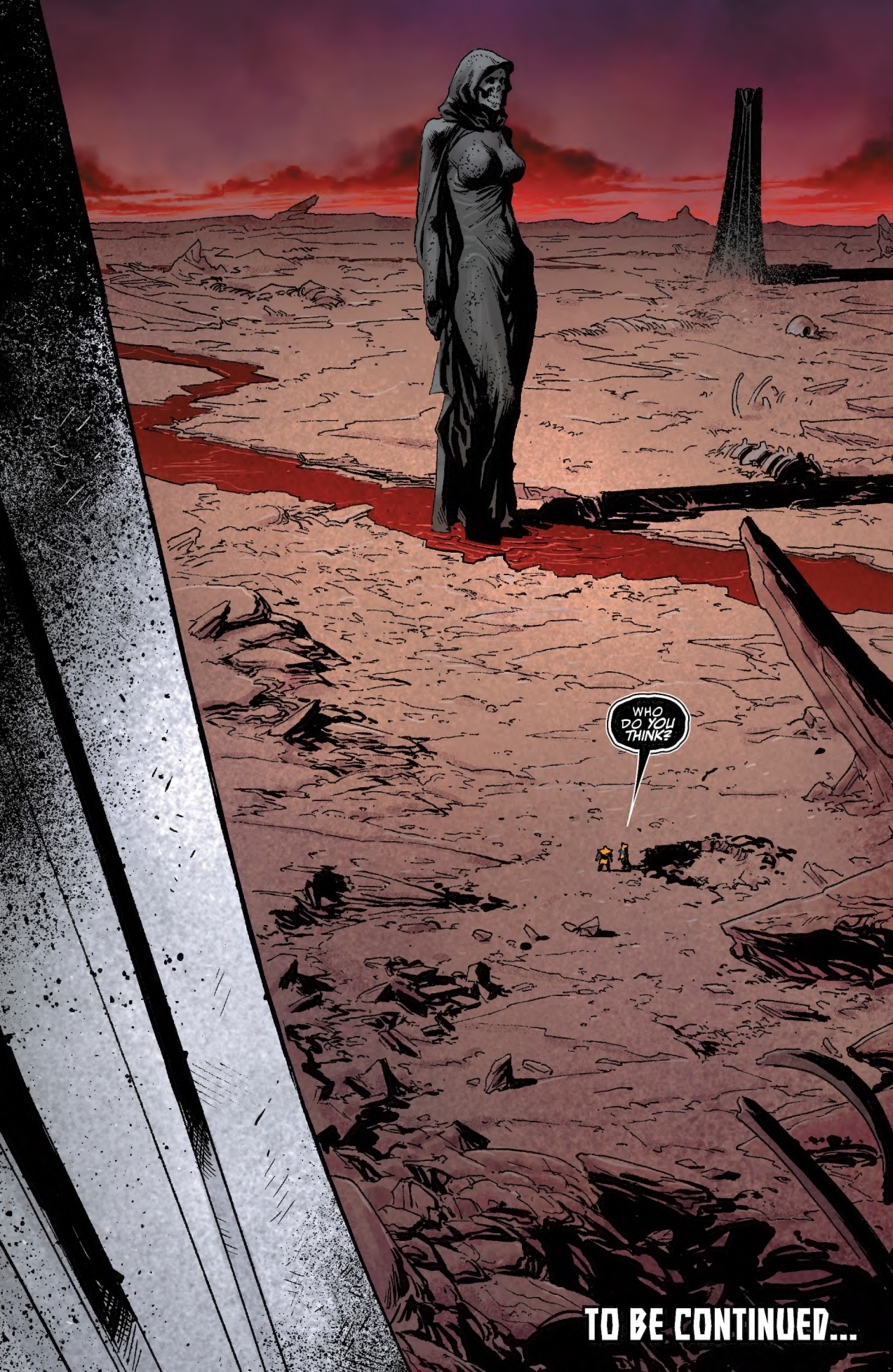
YOU WOULD BE WRONG.
PLEASE...
...I NEED YOUR HELP.

BOOOM
AGH!
HEHE...
MAGNIFICENT.

WHO ARE YOU?!
YOU WEAR THAT FACE AND THAT TITLE AND YET THE WORD "PLEASE" COMES FROM YOUR MOUTH?!
YOU BEG?!
AGH!
YOU ARE NO KING!
YOU ARE NO THANOS!
GRAGHH!
BWAAAHHHH

IF THERE WERE ANY DOUBT LEFT IN OUR YOUNG THANOS THAT THE MAN IN FRONT OF HIM WAS TRULY HIMSELF SEPARATED BY MILLIONS OF YEARS...
...IT WAS ERASED WITH THE HEAT OF THE POWER COSMIC BURNING THE AIR IN HIS LUNGS...
YOU TALK TOO MUCH...
...AND THE SOUND OF HIS TRUE NAME, THE ONE HIS MOTHER HAD CHOSEN FOR HIM BEFORE HER MIND HAD BEEN SHATTERED.
...DIONE.
A NAME SHE HAD SPOKEN ONLY TO HIM...
...ON THE DAY THAT SHE DIED.

AND IT WAS WITHIN THAT MOMENT...THAT VERY MINISCULE INSTANT IN TIME WHERE THANOS CHOSE TO ALIGN WITH HIMSELF...
...THAT ETERNITY, AS YOU KNOW IT, WAS DOOMED.
WHAT DO YOU NEED MY HELP WITH?
I LOST SOMEONE.
I NEED YOU TO HELP ME GET THEM BACK...
WHO?


WHO DO YOU THINK?
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

A REVELATION...

...A CONFRONTATION...

...AND AN ONCOMING HORDE.

THANOS #15

AN OROBOROS
RELEASE - DCP